

right thing. You know what the right thing is. Do the right thing. Vote to reject this very radical, unqualified, dishonest nominee.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, because of the increase in hospitalizations because of the Delta variant of the virus, we are told that the CDC will soon be requiring, in about half the counties of the country, masks and other restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus.

They say they are doing it because of the science. We are told they will not show us the data. The very essence of science is peer review, and pity anybody who wants to analyze it. In America, the public's business ought to be public.

If we can't get this data, what the taxpayers are paying for and public policy is being made on, it seems to me that principle—that the public's business is not really public. And when people are able to cover up things and make policy decisions that are not public and transparent, it obviously brings about less accountability.

So let's have that data. We want to know why you are requiring masks again.

REMEMBERING MIKE ENZI

Madam President, today, I join my colleagues to mourn the passing of my friend, former Senator Mike Enzi.

Just a few months ago, Mike stood here in this very Chamber, on December 22, to say farewell to this institution and his colleagues. After 24 years, the people of his beloved State—serving them—he returned home to Wyoming.

To the good people of Wyoming, I thank you for sharing Mike with us for a couple of dozen years. He was a guiding light here in the U.S. Senate. He worked effectively to find common ground and bridge partisan divide for the public good.

Mike practiced, by word and by deed, the mission statement that he created for his office: Do what is right; do our best; and treat others as they wish to be treated.

In his farewell speech here on the Senate floor, he told us about the 80-percent tool as an effective way to govern. Mike was a pragmatist. He understood good laws aren't made with a sledgehammer. It takes craftsmanship, consensus, and common sense. As Mike said, focus on the 80 percent of an issue where we can find agreement and then discard the other 20 percent.

Today, as Congress seeks to reach consensus on a host of important issues, we would do well to follow Mike's advice. We need more of that bipartisan buy-in that Mike brought from his State of Wyoming to Washington, DC, and the Halls of Congress. I was honored to partner on so many bread-and-butter issues that had a direct impact on hard-working families,

farmers, breadwinners, and small businesses.

As many of you know, I help on our family farm in New Hartford, IA. Mike started and ran a family-owned shoe store in Gillette, his home there in Wyoming. Meeting payroll, paying bills, and making ends meet informed in each of us a philosophy about government spending and conservative management of the taxpayers' money. As disciples of fiscal discipline, we evangelized, caucused, and fought together to hold the line on reckless spending.

Too many people in Washington forget that taxpayers' dollars don't grow on trees. It is the people's money. Mike knew how to crunch numbers and watch over the Federal purse better than all of us. He was an accountant and put his expertise to work as chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. He held the Federal bureaucracy to account and kept Congress accountable to the American people.

Reelected by wide margins, Mike relished retail politics and fought for small businesses and retailers at the policymaking tables. Barbara and I traveled to Gillette once to attend a political event with Mike and his wife Diana. The feeling in the crowd was insightful; the Enzis are beloved in Wyoming.

Mike kept in touch with the grassroots, traveling Wyoming as extensively as I travel to every corner of Iowa. However, he always made time to foster relationships with friends, former staff, and, of course, his family.

I don't often socialize in Washington, but I made an exception for my friend Mike Enzi. I joined the Enzis' weekly Tortilla Coast dinner when I could. My wife Barbara joined every chance she had, and she did it much more often than I did.

On each Senator's birthday, Mike would write a long, heartfelt birthday note with a personal P.S. I looked forward to reading his birthday wish every year and the advice—very good advice—that he included in it. There was always a piece of advice or a challenge for the year ahead.

Mike was humble. Mike was approachable. Mike was respected by all. He was a true friend of this Senate. I recall those parting words from the gentle giant of Gillette, WY: I like being a Senator, not for the title, not for the recognition, and certainly not for the publicity. I like solving Federal problems for Wyoming people. I like doing legislation.

And, of course, Mike did just that. Barbara and I extend our heartfelt sympathy to Diana and his children as well. May God bless Mike, a faithful servant of the Lord. And we saw that faithfulness to the Lord as he led the Wednesday morning Senate prayer meeting on a very regular basis. And may He bring you and your family peace and comfort, today and always.

CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, on another note, on June 8 of this year, I sent a letter—

I came to the floor, I should say instead, to speak about my oversight activities with respect to the origins of the coronavirus. As part of that oversight, on March 8 and May 26 of this year, I wrote to the Department of Health and Human Services about its oversight of grants sent to EcoHealth Alliance.

The Department sent millions of dollars to EcoHealth. That group then subawarded hundreds of thousands of dollars of that taxpayer money to the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Reports have indicated that \$600,000 to \$826,000 was sent to the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

So, folks, what we have here is taxpayer money that was sent to the communist Chinese Government. That is a pretty scary proposition. When we send taxpayers' money to the Chinese Government, if there is no oversight done on that money, then we really don't have any idea how it is used. Just look at the news about China kicking the French out of the Wuhan laboratory.

China can't be trusted, period. But I am not sure bureaucrats share that same view. I am talking about bureaucrats of our government. To illustrate, Dr. Anthony Fauci has said that Chinese scientists are trustworthy; that "we [really] always trust the grantee to do what they say."

As a threshold matter, if a government worker doesn't show at least a little bit of skepticism about how a grant recipient is using the taxpayers' money, they aren't doing their job. That skepticism is healthy, and it is basic good government to question the recipient to make sure that they are doing what they are supposed to do with our money.

Dr. Fauci has also stated that the National Institutes of Health "has not ever and does not now fund gain-of-function research in the Wuhan Institute of Virology." That is a pretty confident statement.

When my colleague Senator PAUL questioned Dr. Fauci on his position with respect to gain-of-function research, that same Dr. Fauci called my colleague a liar. Well, the way I see it, the only way that Dr. Fauci and the government can be so confident that no gain-of-function research was done is if they performed the proper oversight of the American taxpayers' money sent to China.

In both my letters to the Department of Health and Human Services, I asked that very question. So far, the Department of Health and Human Services has failed to answer the question.

On June 10 of this year at the Senate Finance Committee hearing, I asked Secretary Becerra what, if any, oversight was done. He didn't give me an answer. I asked again in a followup question for the record—still no response, even though all these people that come before a committee for nomination approval always say: We will answer your letters; we will answer the phone; we will testify. But no answer to that question yet.